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NATIONALIST CHINA - US: Taipei is indignant at recent US decisions.

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NATIONALIST CHINA - US: TAIPEI IS INDIGNANT AT THE US DECISIONS TO ALLOW A LEADER OF THE TAIWANESE INDEPENDENCE MOVEMENT TO ENTER THE US AND TO REDUCE THE MILITARY AID PROGRAM SHARPLY NEXT YEAR.

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HIGH-LEVEL CHINESE OFFICIALS HAVE MADE VERY STRONG PRESENTATIONS INDICATING THAT TAIPEI VIEWS BOTH ISSUES AS "VITAL MATTERS" IN WHICH WASHINGTON IS DELIBERATELY IGNORING NATIONALIST INTERESTS. HIGH-RANKING FOREIGN MINISTRY SPOKESMEN TOLD THE US CHARGE THAT ISSUANCE OF A VISA TO P'ENG MING-MIN WOULD BE INTERPRETED AS US SUPPORT OF INDEPENDENCE-MINDED TAIWANESE AND "COULD EASILY HARM" US RELATIONS WITH TAIPEI. ACTING FOREIGN MINISTER SHEN SAID LATER, IN REFERENCE TO THE REDUCED MILITARY AID, THAT "THERE IS JUSTIFICATION FOR SUSPECTING THERE IS MORE BEHIND THIS MOVE THAN MEETS THE EYE" AND ADDED THAT THIS AND OTHER RECENT ACTIONS LED TAIPEI TO QUESTION US COMMITMENT TO THE NATIONALISTS.

TAIPEI'S REACTION TO THE US DECISIONS IS THE LATEST REFLECTION OF ITS PAINFUL ADJUSTMENT TO A NEW RELATIONSHIP WITH WASHINGTON. ALTHOUGH THE NATIONALISTS MAY YET EXPRESS THEIR DISSATISFACTION AT THE HIGHEST LEVEL BY PERSONAL MESSAGES FROM CHIANG KAI-SHEK AND MAY WELL MAKE PUBLIC THEIR ANGER, THERE IS LITTLE TAIPEI COULD DO IN RETALIATION THAT WOULD NOT ALSO INJURE ITS OWN CAUSE.

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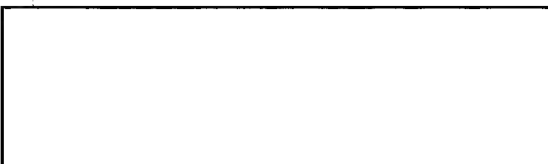
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